



Our goal is to eliminate the opportunity gap while creating every student to be civic and digital citizens who are prepared to be college and career ready.



## Superintendent's Report to the Board of Trustees

January 23, 2015

### *Superintendent's Message:*

*Board of Trustees*

*President:*

*Mrs. Marie Berlanga*

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*Mr. Fabian M. Barrera*

*Mr. Jaime Fernández*

*Dr. Rupi K. Boyd, Superintendent  
&*

*Secretary to the Board*

### **A week at a glance:**

Dear Trustees,

It has been an exciting week. We will be submitting our letter of support for the Hartnell Pathway Academies Grant. Soledad High School staff will have to select a pathway for participation in the grant. We also submitted an in-kind support letter for the AG pathway with San Luis Obispo.

I attended the superintendent's council meeting at MCOE. The IMPACT survey committee has requested input from our 11th graders on an online survey. We should receive a link next week that will be sent to the principal. Students will be able to take the survey on their iPads-- time and class yet to be determined by the high school staff.

Exciting news --some of our high school students will have dual enrollment in Hartnell Classes. We are offering two classes: English 101 and Computers. Counselors have been busy administering the placement test to interested students. The student registration fee is waived by the state as long as they have dual enrollment-- which is a savings of \$40.00 a unit. Students only have to pay student service fees which are approximately \$10.00. We have scheduled a meeting with Dr. Lewallen to discuss expansion of facilities and dual enrollment.

CNA classes will be offered again in Soledad. We met with our CNA Instructor, Cynthia Blas and CNA Director, Marjorie Rossi to start the planning process. Eden Valley is collaborating with the district for internship experience. Great collaboration and exciting news for our students and community. The classes will take place at CEC to allow access to both adults and high school students interested in pursuing a CNA certificate.

We had a great meeting with LPA Architecture firm. The firm will schedule some meeting dates to solicit input from all stakeholders. Hope to have a big turnout. Next Wednesday at 6 p.m. is Cookies and Coffee with Superintendent at the District Office. Please stop by if time permits.

# Educational Services

## Proficiency for All-Common Core Standards Implementation

Administrator's received a professional development on Tuesday, January 20th around the CCSS 8 Mathematical practices. The primary goal of the PD was help our team of administrators understand and unpack the realities of math instruction within the Common Core framework while focusing on the math instructional shifts (primarily “process over content/product”) and to increase understanding and awareness of the 8 Mathematical Practices in order to better support SUSD teachers.



SHS teachers attended Adaptive Schools PD throughout the day on Wednesday, January 21st with a focus on developing the collective identity and capacity of organization members as collaborators and inquirers while also implementing learned strategies in the classrooms with their students.



District Leadership also attended Day 5 of Cognitive Coaching on Thursday, January 22nd with a primary focus on integrating planning and reflective conversations while developing an understanding of their own

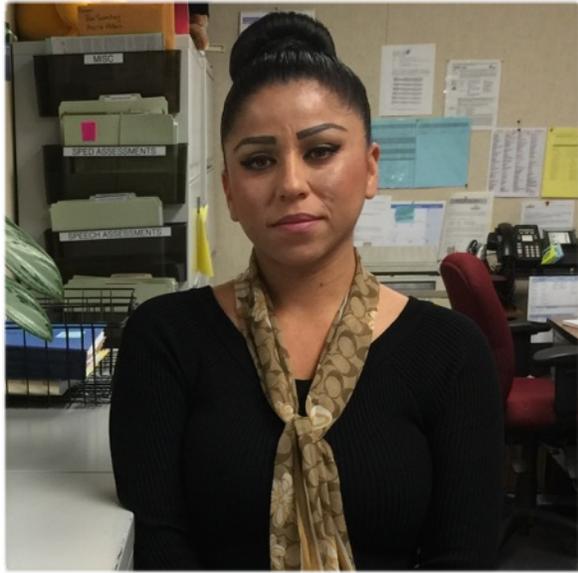
and others' style preferences. The organizational professional development supports the adaptive changes that are taking place statewide in education including LCAP goals and priorities, Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), implementation of CCSS and practices, new curriculum implementation, and etc.

## Math Lesson Studies

Chase Orton, the district's math coach/consultant conducted lesson studies in 3rd grade and 5th grade at Frank Ledesma and Jack Francioni over the course of two days this week. Dr. Witwer and Ms. Cortez, principals of these schools, engaged in the process to inform their practice as well as support their teachers' learning. “Lesson study” is different from “lesson planning” because it focuses on what teachers want students to learn rather than on what teachers plan to teach. In lesson study, a group of teachers develops a lesson together and ultimately one of them teaches the lesson while the others observe the student learning. The entire group comes together to debrief the lesson and often revises and re-teaches the lesson to incorporate what has been learned about student learning.



# Special Projects



## Intervention & Support

A very warm welcome to Teresa Chavez, our new Migrant Education Program Statistical Technician. You may recognize Teresa from South County YMCA, where she previously worked for 8 years. Teresa is also a parent of three students, with one enrolled each at Soledad High, Main Street Middle, and Rose Ferrero Elementary schools. She is located at the District Office and is responsible for family outreach and coordination of support for families qualifying for Migrant Education services. She can be reached at 678-1581.

## Systems of Accountability

Upcoming Meetings:

Migrant Parent Advisory Council Meeting

Wednesday, January 28th

San Vicente School Multi

7:00-8:30 p.m.

Soledad Community Collaborative Meeting

Tuesday, February 3rd

Jack Francioni School, Room 12

9:00-10:30 a.m.

District English Learners Advisory

Committee Meeting

Tuesday, February 17th

Jack Francioni School Library

6:00-7:30 p.m.

# Special Education

## Self Determination

When students with disabilities have practice making decisions, considering consequences, thinking ahead, and advocating for themselves, they are on the path to becoming collaborative partners in their own education-participants rather than bystanders. Wehmeyer (2007) says that these students "feel better about themselves, take more risks, ask for the help and clarification they need, and consequently do better in school and life."

## Teaching Tips for Self Advocacy

- \*Don't answer for children, let them speak for themselves.
- \*Encourage appropriate assertiveness, a confident voice, and appropriate volume. Help a child to tone down a voice that is too loud.
- \*Encourage children to express their needs appropriately, to learn their rights to be informed, but not to feel entitled.
- \*Teach children to say a polite "no, thank you" to unneeded help.

## District Highlights

Lori Morones, Coordinator of Special Education, and Wendy Salisbury, school psychologist, at a legal training for students with special needs. Wendy is a highly knowledgeable veteran school psychologist for the district, and serves Soledad High School, Transition Center, Soledad Independent Study Program, Pinnacles High School, and Rose Ferrero Elementary School.



# Business Department

## Second Interim Reporting

Second Interim Reporting is in the process of being prepared. As mentioned in a previous newsletter, Interim reporting allows the District to compare what was budgeted to actual expenditures and to revise the District's budget as necessary. A copy of the second interim report will be available by request at the District Office once it is complete.

## Soledad Education Foundation Grant: Update

The Business Department is currently in the process of updating the Soledad Education Grant allocations. Please be sure that you are in the process of spending your allocation that was awarded at the end of last year. Any money that is unspent is subject to being returned to the Soledad Education Foundation. For questions about grant awards, please e-mail Esteban Rios at [elrios@soledad.k12.ca.us](mailto:elrios@soledad.k12.ca.us)

## ACSA School Business Academy Training

Several members of The Business Department attended session 7 of 10 of the ACSA School Business Academy. Tim Hern (CBO) and Angel Murnan (Director of Budget) of Lodi Unified School District presented on budget preparation and control. The training received will be useful in the upcoming months as the district begins to prepare next years budget.

## Business Office Update:

Process and procedures are being developed as we get to know each other as a team. There are still many areas that need special attention.

## Special Olympics

Our Adaptive Physical Education program is asking for donations to purchase t-shirts for our district student athletes who will be participating at this year's Special Olympics event. The Special Olympics event will be held at Monterey Peninsula College on May 1, 2015. Please make checks payable to Soledad Unified School District and please reference Adaptive PE on your checks as well. Please send your checks to the Address below:

779 Orchard Lane  
Soledad, CA 93960

Your kind donation is very much appreciated.

## Payroll

January 2015 payroll warrants and Forms W2 will be distributed to school sites on January 30, 2015. All warrants and Forms W2 that are not picked up by 3:00 p.m. will be mailed.

Please contact payroll staff for additional information or questions.

Certificated Staff: Vanessa Guajardo,  
678-8937 x108

Classified Staff: Melissa Silva,  
678-3987 x104



# Human Capital

Ms. Kleinhofer,  
Ms. Diaz &  
Mrs. Turner

## Teacher Appreciation Scholarship

Twenty (20) Full-Tuition Scholarships are available through the University of Phoenix for either a Bachelor of Science in Education or for a Master of Arts in Education. Application Deadline is March 3, 2015. For more information, please contact Lisa Kleinhofer at [lkleinhofer@soledad.k12.ca.us](mailto:lkleinhofer@soledad.k12.ca.us)

## Are you Interested in Earning a Doctorate Degree?

If so, Brandman is offering a two-year program and you can hear all about it on Wednesday, January 28th from 4:30-5:30pm in the Monterey County Office of Education Board Room at 901 Blanco Circle in Salinas.

## Need to Pass the CSET?

The San Diego County Office of Education is offering an online program to help you prepare for this important exam. For more information please check out this website: <http://www.sdcoe.net/human-resources/Pages/cset-training.aspx>

## Open Positions

Position	Site	Closes on
Elementary Academic Coach	DW	1/30/2015
SPED Teacher	SHS	Until Filled
GED Teacher	DW	Until Filled
School Psychologist	DW	Until Filled
Substitute Pool: Clerical, Custodial/Maintenance, Instructional Aide, Pupil Supervisor	DW	Until Filled

**Please apply at [EdJoin.org](http://EdJoin.org).**

## Credentials

All certificated staff, please check the status of your credential at <http://www.ctc.ca.gov> and take action to renew any expiring credentials.

Additionally, if you are teaching with a Provisional Internship Permit, Short-Term Staff Permit, or Variable-Term Waiver, please contact the Human Capital Department to map out your education plan.

## *Practice Reinforces Learning*

Next week, I will commence with the intern and induction teachers the Cognitive Coaching protocol - planning conversation, observing, reflecting conversation – as instructed by consultant John Match.

This week in PD, intern-teachers, tasked with solving problems requiring rigorous thinking, engaged in a highly energetic, collaborative, interactive, metacognitive learning environment, synonymous with a common-core learning environment. (Many did not want to stop thinking!) During a metacognitive segment, they reflected upon creating their classrooms into a more student-engaged learning environment in which students rigorously think.

Last week, I received the December report from the Riverside Induction Director regarding our YR-1 and YR-2 teachers' induction progress stating that our teachers' progress looks great. Kudos to teachers who attended their online sessions while on vacation and even while out of the country! Yesterday, a YR-2 teacher shared with me her plans for the next induction task: an instruction video. She thinks to use the student-science project. As with her, teachers and coaches share that induction assignments easily transfer into instructional practice.

*We do imbibe our learning via committed practice.*

# Technology



*Thank you!*

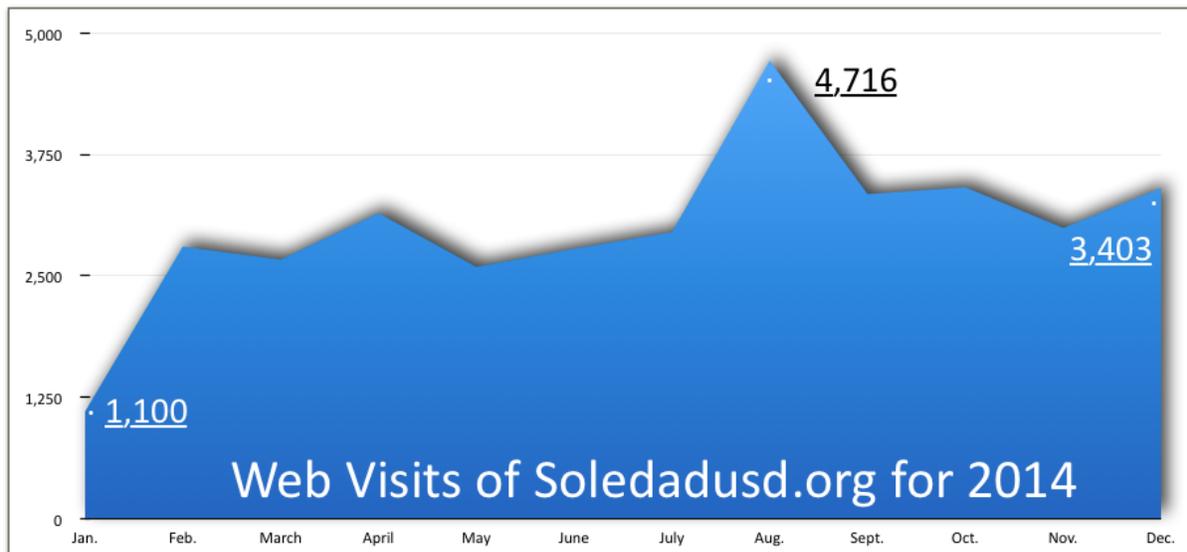
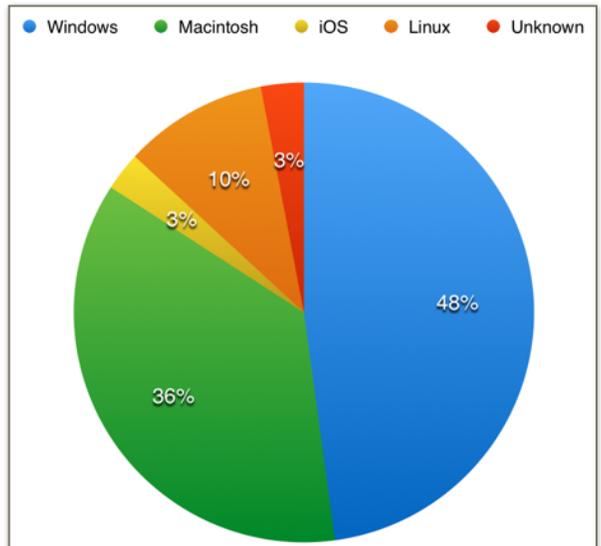
Thank you to all the staff that helped with the iPad Deployment at Soledad High. We are one step closer to a 21st century learning environment.

## **Web Data for [soledadusd.org](http://soledadusd.org)**

**The community is becoming more familiar with our district website. It is a great resource for information on our schools and events.**

**Here are the web statistics for 2014 for Soledad Unified School District's website.**

**Check out the IT website:  
[tech.soledadusd.org](http://tech.soledadusd.org)**



# MOTF

## Operations

A majority of our custodians took their well deserved vacation during the holidays. The custodians who chose to stay and work completed minor winter projects. For example, some floors were waxed at Main Street Middle. Extra classroom vacuuming, dusting, and cleaning was completed at all sites.

## Bond

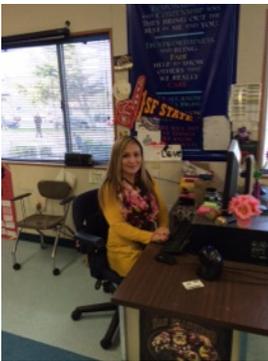
A special board meeting will take place on January 28, 2015 to discuss and approve an architectural agreement with LPA Architects Inc. SUSD Board members approved for the district to pursue negotiations on an agreement with LPA Inc. on January 10, 2015.

## Transportation



Vehicle accidents can occur at any moment. Our bus drivers have to be vigilant due to the cargo they transport and take into account weather conditions especially during winter months. This accident took the life of the big rig driver. No students were on board but the bus driver sustained moderate injuries.

## Food Service



Monica Oliveros is a cafeteria clerk at Gabilan School. She helps to coordinate and track the number of lunches served on a daily basis.



Beverly Quitevis helps to prepare and feed students at Jack Francioni School. Beverly is preparing chicken patties on this particular day.



Carlos Torres is our on site representative from Sodexo. Carlos works closely with head cooks like Susana Jimenez, to insure healthy meals are served at Gabilan school.